Biography

Mr. Douglas A. Rohn

Director, Transformative Aeronautics Concepts Program
NASA Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)

Mr. Rohn is responsible for the overall planning, management and evaluation of the directorate's efforts to cultivate revolutionary concepts, tools, and technologies that enable aviation transformation. The program solicits and encourages ideas, creates the environment for researchers to experiment with those ideas, explores broadly-critical technologies, develops new computational and experimental tools, performs ground and small-scale flight tests, allows failures and learning from them, and drives turnover into future concepts and first-of-a-kind capabilities.

In addition, he supports the ARMD associate administrator in a broad range of mission directorate activities, including strategic and program planning; budget development; program review and evaluation; and external coordination.

Previously, Rohn was director of the Aviation Safety Program Office and its efforts to improve the overall safety of aircraft that fly today and in the future in U.S. airspace. Prior to that position he was deputy program director, providing strategic management of technical product across multiple projects within the program.

Before coming to NASA Headquarters, Rohn was project manager for the Aircraft Aging and Durability Project at NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, and an engineering program manager for the Aero Project Implementation Office.

He has specialized in research on traction drives and helicopter transmissions (design, performance, life and lubrication) and spacecraft mechanisms and robotics (precision, life and lubrication). In addition, Rohn has been a project manager on physics-based design and manufacturing, accident mitigation, and aviation security research projects. He has authored or coauthored 25 NASA technical papers, journal articles and conference publications on traction drives, space mechanisms, and aviation safety and security.

His awards include the NASA Medal for Exceptional Service in 2003, the Structures Division Best Paper Award in 1985, and the NASA Tech Brief Award in 1979. He has also been awarded several NASA Group Achievement Awards and NASA Special Act or Service Awards.

Rohn earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Cleveland State University and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Toledo.